

(b) the progress made after taking up the matter with the State Government;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision to accord recognition to the struggle would be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) The matter is under active consideration in consultation with the Government of Kerala.

Eco-Clearance to Industrial Units

*337. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed and revised the norms and procedure for grant of mandatory eco-clearance to the industrial units; and

(b) if so, the details of the new schemes and the main innovations introduced in the system thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The norms and procedure for grant of environmental clearance to industrial projects are governed by the regulations under Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 which *inter-alia* provide for preparation of Environmental Management Plan, consultation with Expert Committees and interaction with project affected populations.

The Government has recently decided to make public hearings mandatory for Developmental Projects. A National Environment Appellate Authority is being established for hearing of appeals against the decisions of competent authorities under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Atrocities on SCs/STs

*338. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of crimes against SC/ST registered in 1995 and 1996 and the percentage of such cases sent to courts, state-wise;

(b) the names of the States which have set up special courts for SC/ST; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of by these courts in the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) State-wise incidence of atrocities and other crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1995 and 1996 is given as statement. The details about percentage of the cases sent to courts during 1995 and 1996 are under collection and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) In accordance with the provisions contained in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, all States and UTs (except Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland) have specified for each District, a Court of Sessions to be a Special Court to try offences under the Act. Besides, State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have also set up 3, 3, 4, 10 and 18 exclusive Special Courts, respectively for this purpose.

(c) Information for 1995 and 1996 is under collection from the State Governments and U.T. Administrations and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

State/UT-wise incidence of atrocities and other crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1995 and 1996

| S.No. | State/UT | Crime | | | | Data for 1996 upto |
|-------|-------------------|-------|-----|------|-----|--------------------|
| | | 1995 | | 1996 | | |
| | | SC | ST | SC | ST | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1764 | 165 | 1339 | 196 | November* |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | September |
| 3. | Assam | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | September |
| 4. | Bihar | 747 | 232 | NA | NA | |